

GIGANTIC MUNITION EXPLOSION IN NEW YORK HARBOR KILLS 50 AND DOES \$50,000,000 DAMAGE

**White Light District of Broadway
Thrown Into Panic and Every
Street Is Littered With Broken
Glass and Debris; Hundreds Flee
From Big Hotels.**

**Windows Smashed in Maiden Lane
and Police Reserves Are Called
Out to Keep Looters Away;
Shells Scream Over City From
Blown Up Ammunition Cars.**



ELLIS ISLAND.
Where the Shock Was Most Severely Felt and From Where Many Immigrants Were Rescued.

**People Aroused for Ninety Miles
Around, Hundreds of Buildings
Wrecked and Numberless Win-
dows Shattered to Pieces as
Blast Shakes Five States.**

**Blazing Barges of Dynamite Float
Down River and Ships Are
Obligated to Cast Off and Make
For Open Water; Entire Phone
Service in Jersey Disrupted.**

NEW YORK, July 30.—Fifty killed, scores injured, \$50,000,000 in damage, is the net result of a series of terrific explosions in munition cars, barges, and warehouses near the Statue of Liberty shortly after 2 o'clock this morning.

New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania, all were rocked by the upheaval which caused a panic in New York and Brooklyn.

The first explosion was followed by thirty minor explosions in railroad yards and terminals on the New Jersey shore. Hundreds of fragments of shells rained on the lower city and bodies were hurled high in air in plain view of police and firemen called frantically to the scene of the blazing warehouses.

Rocked by the upheaval, Ellis Island immigrants ran screaming from their beds, were hurried aboard barges and rushed away as two lighters, loaded to the gunwales with explosives and blazing fiercely, bumped into the piers of the island.

PEOPLE AROUSED FOR NINETY MILES AROUND

For ninety miles into New Jersey people were roused from bed by the thundering echoes of the catastrophe.

In Manhattan and Brooklyn the first effect of the reverberating quake was amazing. People rushed to the streets half clad from hotels and homes.

Windows in hundreds of stores were shattered, leaving the contents easy prey for looters, who gathered a harvest.

Police headquarters flashed orders all over the city, bringing every available man on reserve duty to lower Manhattan to guard the prizes that had been exposed in Maiden Lane and in other wealth-laden streets of that district.

Reserves who had been detailed to car-strike duty were called off and scattered throughout the city.

Broadway was a sea of glass. Signs were torn down and crashed to the gutters.

Fulton street, in Brooklyn, and even Bath avenue, in Bensonhurst, were strewn with fragments of broken windows.

WHITE LIGHT DISTRICT OF BROADWAY TERRORIZED.

Broadway's white light district was terrorized. At first it was thought the subway had blown up or a building had collapsed.

Frightened guests ran from the Astor, the St. Regis, the Waldorf, the McAlpin, the Biltmore, and a score of other hotels in Manhattan.

On every lip was the frightened cry, "The world is coming to an end!"

Lower Manhattan, with its streets of great skyscrapers, seemed to rock like a tree in a gale. Behind the towering Woolworth building flared a ghastly light, adding to the terror of the thousands.

Brooklyn Bridge and Manhattan Bridge seemed for a moment to swing uncertainly. Crossing trolley cars seemed to hop into the air for inches and then to stumble back to the tracks. Passengers were crushed against each other, and glass was shattered.

Thousands rushed for subways, more thousands dashed for telephones to ask police headquarters and newspapers for information.

NUMBERLESS WINDOWS SHATTERED TO PIECES.

Numberless windows were shattered in Staten Island, Jersey City, and Bayonne and Communipaw, where the shocks were felt most.

Almost every building in York street, Jersey City, was wrecked and the police closed the thoroughfare.

In the bay dozens of captains got up steam prepared to leave to avoid barges which drifted like volcanoes with the tide.

Beyond the immediate radius of the greater city, Paterson, Pas-

saic, Hackensack, and a score of other Jersey towns, including Camden, were violently rocked.

Two lighters, which had lain at the piers at the terminal, where the first blow-up occurred, were shaken loose and ignited from sparks. With their loads of ammunition afire they drifted down the bay toward Ellis Island, the shells on board exploding a hundred a minute.

Dr. Joseph Wilson, of the Immigration Hospital, reported his danger to the New York police, and it was then that the immigrants were taken off. Army headquarters sent the Governors Island ferry to aid in the work, and the hundreds of panic-stricken aliens, mostly women and children, were landed safely at the Battery.

NO EXACT ESTIMATE OF KILLED.

Until later in the day it will be impossible to give exact figures on the killed, injured, and missing.

There are reports that many firemen were lost, but this is unverified.

Altogether there are thirty patients in Jersey City hospitals. Many of them are cut and bruised. Others suffered from injured ears. Surgeons say the condition of many is dangerous.

The most remarkable escape in the story of many strange escapes was that of Peter Razeto, a deck hand on Moran Barge No. 8, which lay a little off the Jersey shore.

The explosion blew him clear of the boat and almost to the shore. He swam to shore and then collapsed. He was picked up and carried to the City Hospital.

The cause of the explosion is a mystery. The warehouse destroyed was owned by the National Storage Company, which was engaged in the shipment of ammunition to the allies.

Edmund L. Mackenzie, its president, when notified of the explosion at his home in Plainfield, N. J., could not account for the accident, as he said every precaution had been taken to guard against any such accident.

SIX CARS WITH AMMUNITION ON PROPERTY.

Six cars had been run onto this property yesterday with ammunition to be loaded on ships and fourteen barges were tied to the piers with cargoes of dynamite.

Black Tom Island, where the warehouse is situated, juts in the New York bay and lies opposite the Greenville section of Jersey City. It is a terminal for the Lehigh Valley and Jersey Central roads.

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MILITIA ATTACKED ON TEXAS SIDE OF BORDER BY BANDITS

**Fusillade of Bullets Fired Into
Train Carrying First Dela-
ware Infantry.**

EL PASO, July 30.—A troop train of the First Delaware Infantry was attacked at a point west of Sierra Blanca, Texas, early today. The train reached El Paso at 1:30 o'clock.

Stones were first hurled through the windows of the cars, and a fusillade of bullets followed. None of the soldiers was injured.

By the time the men had tumbled out of their berths and armed themselves the train was a considerable distance from the scene of attack.

Lights were extinguished and the train in darkness continued on its way to El Paso.

Some of the militiamen reported narrow escapes from bullets and flying glass.

BLAMED ON BANDITS.

The attack is supposed to have been made by Mexican bandits. Such attacks on troop trains along the border have been frequent since the movement of militia began. Sierra Blanca is east of El Paso, and a detachment of United States troops is stationed there, guarding ranches and settlers in the Big Bend district. The soldiers, after a short stop in El Paso to clear the train of broken glass, proceeded to its station at Deming, N. M.

An official investigation is being made today of an attack from the Mexican (Continued on Fourth Page.)

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RIOTING FOLLOWS SESSION OF STRIKING NEW YORK CAR MEN

**Policeman Shoots Spectator In
Effort to Stop Alleged Brick
Thrower—May Tie-Up City.**

NEW YORK, July 30.—Rioting, which included shooting at a striker by a policeman, followed the meeting of street railroad strikers at 201 East Eighty-sixth street early this morning.

After an all-night session, the union leaders said three-quarters of the employees of the Third Avenue road had joined the strike of the carmen in the Bronx, Westchester, and Yonkers for higher pay and shorter hours.

Police reserves at the place of the meeting were kept busy dispersing strikers, and the shooting occurred when Patrolman Hetrick pursued Richard Brannigan, whom he accused of throwing a brick through a car window at Eighty-third street and Third Avenue.

BYSTANDER IS HIT.

Hetrick fired at Brannigan, but the shot went wild and hit Harold Rankey, twenty, in the arm. Brannigan slipped, hurt his knee, and was arrested. Police Commissioner Woods toured the Third Avenue line this morning to see that there was plenty of police to prevent trouble in operating the cars. The strikers were jubilant and pointed to the fact that at 8 o'clock the Third Avenue line had only thirty cars in operation and that service in the Bronx was at a standstill. W. B. Fitzgerald, vice president of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America, said after the session that all the carmen would go out and that the men on all the lines in the greater city will be organized at once.